अनुसार, बैंक उन अशोध्य एवं संदिग्ध ऋणों, जिनके लिए उनके सांविधिक लेखापरीक्षकों की तसल्ली के अनुसार व्यवस्था की गई है, की मात्रा और बट्टे खाते डाली गई अशोध्य ऋणों की राशि प्रकट नहीं करते।

Waiver of Loan to Special Category States

3276. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government propose to waive Rs. 1000 crores accummulated loans of the special category states;

(b) if so, the details of the special category States and the reasons for waiving of loans to these States;

(c) whether several States have not been repaying either their loans or the interest; and *

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to recover the loans and interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANT RAM POTDUKHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Statement is enclosed.

Statement

Waiver of Loan to Special Category States

The States of Assam and J & K have defaulted in repayment of their Central loan and interest of Rs. 468 crores and Rs. 144 crores respectively in 1991-92 and their liabilities have been carried over to 1992-93. Pending a decision on revision of royalty on crude oil by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, the outstanding loan repayment of Rs. 468 crores carried over from 1991-92 by Assam has been kept in abeyance. An Inter-Ministerial Group was set up by the Ministry of Finance in May, 1992 to suggest a solution to the financial imbalances faced by Assam, Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab. The report of the Group is under the consideration of Government of India. Pending the Government's decision on the report of the Group, recovery of loan and interest of Rs. 144 crores due from Jammu & Kashmir in 1991-92 has been kept in abeyance.

Moratorium upto 1991-92 was granted to Punjab on repayment of special term loans granted to Punjab from 1984-85 to 1990-91 and interest thereon. During 1992-93, Government of Punjab has to pay to Government of India an amount of Rs. 611.38 crores on account of the above as well as term loan sanctioned to the State Government during 1991-92. The State Government has, however, requested for moratorium during 1992-93 also on all special term loans from 1984-85 to 1991-92. Pending a final decision of the Government of India on the report of the Group, recovery of Rs. 611.38 crores from Punjab has been kept in abeyance.

In the current year, repayment of loans by States are being monitored very closely. States have been informed that in the event of default on due date for repayment, the outstanding amount would be recovered from States' entitlements for the following months. In particular, loan repayment by States with persistent ways and means difficulties are being attended to in a case to case basis.

Deafening Noise Amidst Advertisements on Doordarshan

3277. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that during the telecast of programme on Doordarshan, whenever a feature programme is over and a series of advertisements are telecast, the pitch of sound of these advertisement is highly raised, producing a deafening noise; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take steps to stop this practice and make the pitch of all programmes and advertisements uniform in order not to harm eardrums of the viewers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) The variation between audio level of advertisements and other programmes telecast by Doordarshan occures, at times, as the advertisements supplied by different agencies are recorded at high level and pitch for effects. Efforts are made by Doordarshan to pre-check the audio levels of advertisements supplied by different agencies and control it during the course of processing of the signal, while being telecast, to the extent possible in order to minimise the variation in audio level.

New Editors for Hindi News on Doordarshan

3278. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of casual News Editors being booked daily for the Hindi news of Doordarshan and how much money is being paid to them daily;

(b) whether there was any demand for enhancement of their daily wages; if so, the details thereof and also Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether it is a fact that these editors are being made to work for more days than stipulated and are not paid for the extra work; if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) The number of casual News editors booked daily by Doordarshan for the Hindi news bulletins is not fixed and varies as per the day-to-day requirement. The casual News Editors arc paid @ Rs. 200/- and Rs. 250/- per assignment.

(b) Yes, Sir, However, the present rates of payment of assignment are considered adequate.

(c) No, Sir.

Coverage of Neighbouring Countries by Doordarshan

3279. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the neighbouring countries are also receiving Doordarshan programmes;

(b) if so, what are the details of the countries which receive the programmes and what is the extent of the coverage;

(c) whether Doordarshan propose to increase its coverage in other Asian countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DUPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) Doordarshan programmes disseminated through the INSAT Satellite are also available in Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives etc. as a result of technical spill over. These programmes can be received by installing an appropriate Dish Antenna System.

(c) and (d) The Government have also taken up the question of introducing an external service of Doordarshan on an experimental basis for viewers in the Asian countries.

टेलिटैक्स सेवा का विस्तार

3280. **श्री विश्वास राव रामराव पाटिल:** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या दूरदर्शन की टेलिटैक्स सेवा के विस्तार का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) टेलिटैक्स सेवा के जरिए इस समय किस प्रकार के कार्यक्रम प्रसारित किए जा रहे हैं और इस सेवा में कौन-कौन से कार्यक्रमों को शामिल किये जाने का विचार है; और

(घ) किन-किन जगहों में यह सेवा उपलब्ध कराई जाएगी?